

PLAYER'S GUIDE

Illus. Mark Winters and Titus Lunter



RAVNICA ALLEGIANCE

Tensions continue to escalate among the guilds of Ravnica. Crises of leadership abound as the longstanding social order of the Guildpact is disrupted by mysterious forces from within and without. Guild allegiance—the foundation upon which all of Ravnican society is built—will be tested as never before.

An extended stay on Ravnica means deep immersion in the ever-renewing power struggle between guilds. Multicolored cards, Guildgates, and Guildmages all remain as the underpinnings of timeless gameplay that will welcome new players choosing a guild for the first time and delight longtime veterans who have been waiting for a fresh opportunity to demonstrate their allegiance.

THE SECOND WAVE

The five iconic guilds not featured in *Guilds of Ravnica*™ now come to the forefront in *Ravnica Allegiance*™. Each guild has a distinctive play style and preferred strategy. The core of this strategy can be seen in the guild's signature mechanic. Which guild will you stand with?



AZORIUS SENATE

The best Azorius politicians are flexible in their goals and tactics, and addendum is an ability word that allows savvy spellcasters to tailor the effects of instant spells according to the situation at hand. You can cast spells with addendum on your opponent's turn at need, or wait until your main phase to cast them for an added bonus.

ORZHOV SYNDICATE

Death is not the end of a contract with the Orzhov Syndicate, and many Ravnicans find themselves bound in servitude to the Orzhov after their final moments. Creatures with afterlife leave Spirits behind when they die, which you can then use to pick away at your opponent's life total or sacrifice in service to other ambitions.



Blade luggier Creature – Human Rogue Spectude 2.9 (The may can thu spall of the spectual of the spall of th

CULT OF RAKDOS

The Rakdos believe that there is no true revelry without someone getting hurt. If that someone is your opponent, *spectacle* will reward you with discounted costs or additional rewards for your spells. Cheap creatures and direct damage spells are the key to keeping pressure on your opponent, and if you can keep it up, your opponent's pain will give you cause for celebration.

GRUUL CLANS

Nomadic by nature, members of the Gruul Clans rely on strength and speed to successfully raid new stomping grounds. Creatures with the *riot* ability can enter the battlefield with either haste or a +1/+1 counter, giving you the choice between attacking your opponent as quickly as possible or waiting a bit longer to hit even harder.





SIMIC COMBINE

Within every ecosystem, adaptability is the key to success—and the biomancers of the Simic Combine are happy to shape evolution according to their designs. The *adapt* ability is the latest innovation in Simic technology, imbuing creatures with a latent power and toughness boost that can be activated with an infusion of mana.











A COLD WAR ON RAYNICA

The city of Ravnica spans an entire world. It is an endless city of mystery and intrigue, where anything could be happening behind closed doors, and anyone could be hiding in the tunnels and caverns beneath the streets. It is a society that relies on magic for structure and survival, and for millennia, it has been ruled by ten guilds. In more peaceful times, the guilds hold responsibility over different aspects of the city and struggle against one other for power and influence. That struggle has dramatically intensified in recent days, and the city now finds itself entrenched in a cold war.

Rising tensions between the guilds climaxed in a disastrous ending to the recent peace accord. With guild leaders losing their influence, posturing for war, or turning up dead, the public is more anxious than ever, and peace feels like a naïve dream of the past. Brisk winds whip past the spires in the sky, and steady rain turns the city's cobblestone plazas into a vast mirror of gray—the chill of autumn providing a fitting backdrop for the cooling of relations between the guilds.

Now, as trust between citizens plummets to an all-time low, many believe that open conflict would be preferable to the tension of the present.

A surveillance crackdown by the Azorius has massively impacted the functionality of other guilds and motivated drastic reactionary measures. The Orzhov have isolated themselves from other guilds and funneled resources into running a protection racket. The Simic, fearing open conflict, have begun to breed supersoldiers to protect their interests. The Rakdos satirize those in power and mock the farce Ravnican guild relations have become, while the Gruul, as always, rebel fiercely.



DOVIN BAAN

Dovin Baan aspires to perfection. He adores a well-executed plan, and nothing gives him more satisfaction than correcting an error. His first trip to Ravnica was brief, but he quickly became enamored of the guilds that form the basis of Ravnican society, particularly the Azorius Senate. Dovin's talents lie in identifying the faults in a system, and it was easy for him to see how Ravnica's institutional organization could be vastly improved.

Dovin has since joined the Azorius and begun to work his way up the bureaucratic ranks. Shortly after his quiet arrival, each rung of the Azorius ladder began falling into disarray. Meetings were derailed or canceled, paperwork citing obscure legislative rulings appeared on desks as if from thin air, and before long, many among the Senate's most senior leadership found themselves removed from power. With the Azorius in the throes of internal confusion. Dovin Baan had been secretly manipulating loophole after loophole to disrupt the chain of command, furthering his own ambition and obsession with perfection.



KAYA

A confident, roguish duelist with a mysterious past, Kaya makes a living as a ghost assassin, traveling from plane to plane ridding the living of malignant spirits—for a fee. When Kaya's unique skills attracted the attention of Nicol Bolas, the ancient dragon contacted her and promised to help her troubled family if she were able to assassinate the ghosts of the Obzedat, the undying leaders of the Orzhov. Kaya readily accepted.

Amid the growing turmoil on Ravnica, Kaya arrived on the plane, found her way to Orzhova, and snuck into the basilica under the cover of night. There she encountered the imprisoned advokist Teysa Karlov, who gleefully agreed to help Kaya find her spirit targets. Kaya was able to dispatch the ages-old members of the Ghost Council with ease, and now she awaits further instructions as Bolas's mysterious plans unfold.

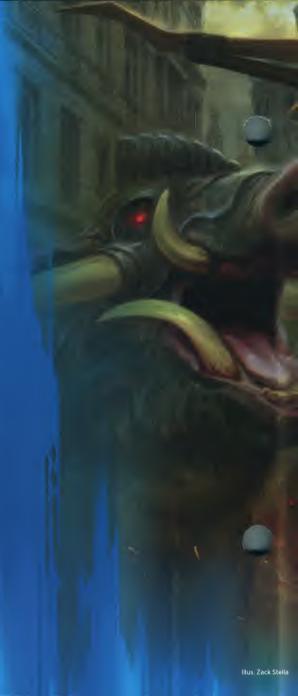




DOMRI RADE

Though born amid the civilization of Ravnica, Domri Rade was orphaned and abandoned in what remained of the wilds at a young age. Forced to fend for himself, he developed his innate magical talents to summon, command, and empower the huge beasts of the rubblebelts. He grew up with a deepseated distrust of rules, hierarchies, and authority figures, which made him a natural fit for the Gruul once the clans recognized his magic as a form of strength that made up for his relative physical weakness.

Domri now seeks a way to challenge and defeat the cyclops Borborygmos for leadership of the Gruul. Some who follow the Old Ways view Domri's potential victory over Borborygmos as a sign that a long-promised apocalypse is imminent. They call Domri the herald of Ilharg, the Raze-Boar, a primeval god whose coming is meant to bring civilization to an end.



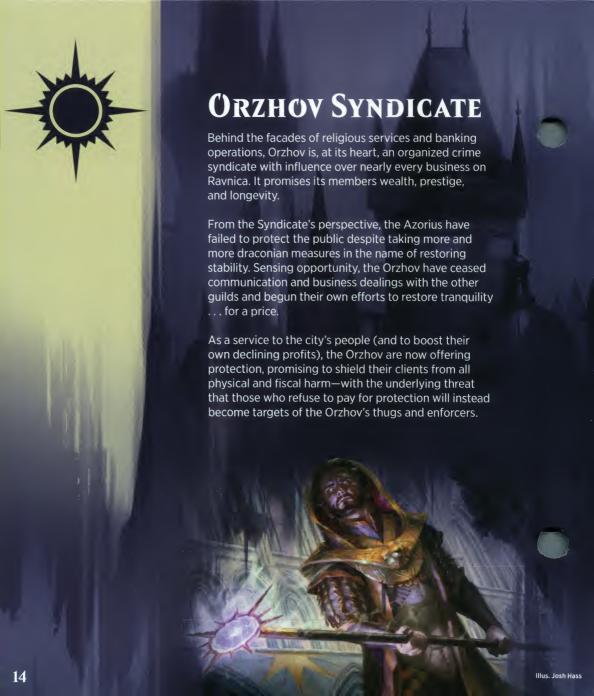




guilds, and many citizens of Raynica have begun to fear

the influence that the Azorius wield.

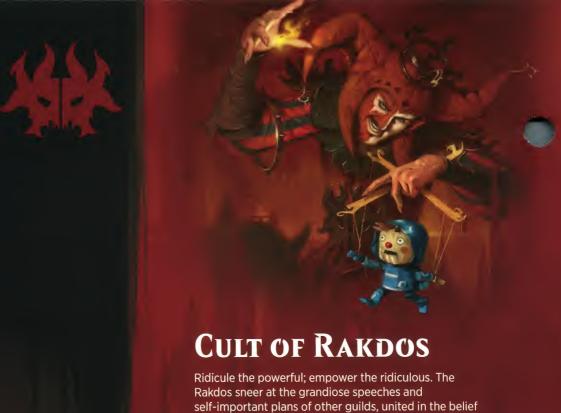






Teysa Karlov is an advokist: a lawyer-mage dedicated to ensuring due process and justice for her clients. She was once successful enough to be appointed Grand Envoy to the Obzedat, acting as the public voice for the Ghost Council that ruled the guild. For years, a defining characteristic of the Orzhov was the tension between Teysa's efforts to navigate the complex political realities of the world of the living and the inflexible, avaricious will of the Obzedat. Teysa argued strenuously that the Obzedat's utter refusal to forge alliances with other guilds would eventually lead to the Syndicate's downfall.

The tension reached its boiling point when Teysa enlisted the help of Tajic, a knight of the Boros Legion, in an attempt to seize power. Her attempt failed, and the Obzedat imprisoned Teysa and eliminated the role of grand envoy—but Teysa would not be so easily discouraged. With the help of her apprentice, she works from prison to maintain lines of communication with other guilds in the hope of forging alliances should she ever regain her freedom.



Ridicule the powerful; empower the ridiculous. The Rakdos sneer at the grandiose speeches and self-important plans of other guilds, united in the belief that their rivals take themselves far too seriously. The Rakdos are hedonistic nihilists who have come to the conclusion that the power players of Ravnica deserve to be taken down a peg.

Recently, satirical performance art has been the Cult of Rakdos's weapon of choice in expressing its contempt for the other guilds. Its members' impromptu street performances often skewer famous figures or critique those in power, enthralling the public with over-the-top, irreverent, and frightening spectacle. They employ masks, marionettes, effigies—or make an example by pranking a figure directly. They want to raise Ravnicans' consciousness by making barbed observations about the ridiculousness of guild society—and to have an excellent time doing so.



Rakdos was one of
Ravnica's original paruns.
He has been alive for
millennia, and the cult
that formed around him
has changed over time
from murderous rioters to
no-holds-barred performerhedonists. Rakdos is a
demanding spectator. He's
seen thousands of years'

worth of monologues and circus tricks, so he scoffs at any performance that lacks extravagant showmanship. Simply by being in the audience, Rakdos encourages performers to be at their best: to leave every shred of their cares and former lives behind and live their hearts' desires to the fullest.

Illus, Viktor Titov

JUDITH

Judith is a proud, ruthless diva: a soprano with perfect pitch and a taste for violence. Her performances shock and awe audiences, combining dark soliloquies with improvised arias and bizarre, painful stunts. She's the prima donna of the Rakdos, and what she says backstage goes. She tends to show up during the final act in a dramatic unveiling, marking the moment that a performance shifts and the lampooning antics turn painful. Judith has grown irritated with the attention Rakdos has received over the years. She performs eight times a week, but it's always the parun who gets all the praise. Judith keeps these complaints largely to herself, but will graciously share her opinions with anyone who asks her to sign their program.

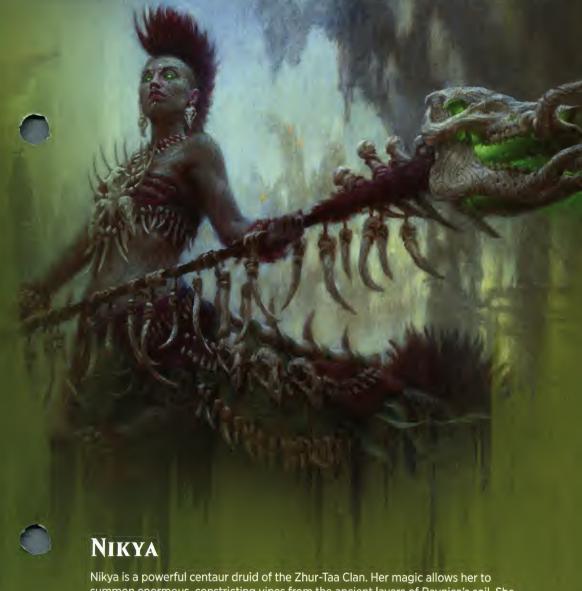




GRUUL CLANS

The Gruul are a loose affiliation of clans that occupy Ravnica's alleyways, abandoned zones, and ruins. The clans have traditionally found a home in the Guildpact as maintainers of Raynica's wild places, fighting tooth and nail to protect undeveloped land and reclaim parts of the city. Many clans have come to occupy the rubblebelts. a strip of war-ruined settlements that begins near the outskirts of Raynica's Tenth District.

Despite living in a world covered almost entirely by cityscapes, the Gruul remain defiantly anti-civilization. Nothing would please the clans so much as to return Ravnica to a brutal state of nature: to tear down its ramparts, raze its buildings to the ground, and restore the pure wilderness that thrived before the city covered the world. As the other guilds teeter on the brink of collapse, the Gruul see their chance to tip the world into chaos. Anxious for their savagery to awaken the primal god Ilharg, the Raze-Boar, they are eager to raid the city on an unprecedented scale.



Nikya is a powerful centaur druid of the Zhur-Taa Clan. Her magic allows her to summon enormous, constricting vines from the ancient layers of Ravnica's soil. She believes in the Old Ways, and eagerly awaits the day when Ilharg, the Raze-Boar will descend upon Ravnica in a fiery rampage. Nikya is one of Domri's loudest supporters, and she is certain he will be the one to finally lure Ilharg back into the world.





SIMIC COMBINE

The Simic are devoted to studying, cataloging, and improving upon nature. Originally, the Simic Combine took on the role of overseeing public health on Ravnica, and they have continued to pursue that mission even to its logical extremes, discovering ways for nature and civilization to adapt to one another in order to preserve both.

The Simic are naturally aloof and removed from Raynican politics, but the pressures of the outside world cannot always be avoided. In response to the mounting tensions within the city, the Simic have split into two camps: the Utopians, who believe that this cold war will pass, and the Adaptionists, who believe the Simic must innovate to survive whatever comes next. This latter group has recently gained control of the Combine under a new prime speaker, Vannifar. The guild has now directed its biomancers to focus on the large-scale Guardian Project, an endeavor to create vicious amphibious fighters that abandon much of their original morphology in favor of an array of enhancements and bioweapons. For centuries, the Simic have been a peaceful guild, but now, with everything on the line, they are preparing their new soldiers for war.

VANNIFAR

Born an elf, Vannifar is the result of extensive self-experimentation.

Vannifar considers herself a superior life form: a vision of Simic's utopian ideal made flesh. She does not need to eat, sleep, or breathe; her body passively absorbs nutrients and oxygen. Until recently, Vannifar was an outsider and iconoclast: part of a minority opposition to Zegana's rule, but not a respected voice within the guild.

Illus. Kleran Yanner

Nevertheless, as the political climate on Ravnica became more volatile, Vannifar gained influence. Her firm belief that the Simic must undertake more directed experimentation on sentient beings to survive as a guild began to gain traction, and she was eventually voted the new prime speaker. Under Vannifar's leadership, the entirety of the Simic Combine has aligned with the Adaptionists to continue their urgent work.

ZEGANA

Regal and reticent, this former prime speaker believes Vannifar's rule is a dangerous experiment. After her ouster, Zegana returned to the seclusion of Zonot One. She did not remove herself from public life, however, and has remained a staunch supporter of the Utopian vision. Other Utopians have rallied around her, and if Vannifar goes too far, Zegana will be there to make a case to the Combine that the prime speaker should be removed. Until then, she seeks to curb Vannifar's excesses and guard against her failures.

Ten Coolest Cards

By Sam Stoddard, Magic™ designer

1. Domri, Chaos Bringer

Ravnica's favorite pint-sized punk is back, and he's ready to start a riot.

And if you run out of gas, don't worry; Domri can help you refill your hand
with new and exciting beasts to bring civilization to its knees.



2. PRIME SPEAKER VANNIFAR

The leader of the Simic Combine is a great "build around" card for a new deck that includes a variety of powerful, situationally useful creatures that you can search for when the time is right.



You know what's better than one token copy? Two token copies. You know what's better than two token copies? Three. You know what's better than three? I think you get the point. This card may tempt you to dream big, but is that really a bad thing?



4. RAKDOS, THE SHOWSTOPPER

When Rakdos makes an appearance on the stage, your opponents will be on the edge of their seats! If you fill out your deck with other Demons, Devils, and Imps, you can just sit back and enjoy the show.

5. Teysa Karlov

Teysa Karlov's ability to double what are commonly known as "dies triggers" not only allows you to double your *afterlife* effects, but also has tremendous backward compatibility, letting you double the abilities on some of the strongest cards in *Magic* history.









6. CAPTIVE AUDIENCE

This is one not for the faint of heart. While Captive Audience does give your opponents some choices to make about how the card will punish them, all of those choices are downright brutal. Try not to look away as Captive Audience brings the curtain down on your opponent.

7. MORTIFY

One of the strongest removal spells from the original Ravnica block is back! Mortify is flexible in its ability to not only remove your opponent's best creatures, but also deal with Pacifism-like effects on your creatures and enchantments that might stand in the way of your victory.





8. Persistent Petitioners

If there is one thing the Azorius are known for, it is their strict adherence to regulations. Persistent Petitioners won't overrun your opponents with their fists; instead, they do it with mountains of red tape. And unlike most *Magic* cards, there's no limit to the number of Persistent Petitioners you can have in your deck.

9. PESTILENT SPIRIT

The undercity contains many horrors, and few are more terrifying than Pestilent Spirit, which can turn even the smallest scratch into a mortal wound. Combine it with spells or creatures that deal 1 damage to your opponent's creatures to quickly wipe their board away.





10. Mass Manipulation

Unlike most creature-stealing effects, this spell doesn't stop at one. With enough mana, you can turn all your opponent's allies against them. The enemy of your enemy is your friend, and there is nothing better than having a lot of friends.

RAVNICA ALLEGIANCE

CARD ENCYCLOPEDIA

































Afterlife 2 (When this creature dies, create two 1/1 white and black Spirit creature tokens with flying.)

016/259 U RNA+EN ► BASTIEN L. DEHARME

When the price of your sins comes due, the Church of Deals is there to collect. 2/1







1, Sacrifice Resolute Watchdog: Target creature you control gains indestructible until end of turn. (Damage and effects that say "destroy" don't destroy 'i.)

A friend in good times, a guardian in bad times, and a savior when all else fails. 1/3

DNA - EN No Musica Caras

259 R EN ► MARK BERM





































































3/3





052,/255 € RNA•EN ► GRZEGORZ RUTKOWSKI



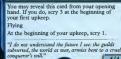
Return target creature to its owner's

-Grupgrup, sluiceway technician

owner's library.

"Oops!"





Verity Circle



26



0/4





















"Make way! It's time for the final act!"





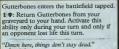
All creatures get -2/-2 until end of turn. Exile all creature cards in all graveyards that were put there from the battlefield this turn. If a creature would die this turn, exile it instead.

If your ears bleed, it's a party. If your eyes bleed, it's a Rakdos party.

070/259 U RNA+EN ► IOHANN BOI







-Lavinia 2/1









































































































control get +2/+2 and gain vigilance and trample until end of turn.

"Smash this city to pieces." -Domri Rade

7/7



10





Nikya of the Old Ways



Growth-Chamber Guardian





























"If the Fin Clade cannot produce a reliable venomous krasis, mobile in both air and water, then the Guardian Project will absorb its resources." -Vannifar 4/2

142/259 C RNA+EN SVETLIN VELINOV







"The presence of the strong will make you stronger."

—Yeva, Nature's Herald

145/259 C RNA+EN SOAN SCOTT

2/2





































target creature you control onto another target creature you control.























































































































































236/259 U RNA+EN ► MHEN PAKK





















































Cards numbered 260 to 272 are exclusive to the Planeswalker Decks*. These cards are legal for tournament play in any format that includes Ravnica Allegiance.



















Card 273 is a Buy-a-Box promo that doesn't appear in booster packs. It's legal for tournament play in any format that includes Ravnica Allegiance.



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